

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the Advisory Action dated December 13, 2007. A Request for Continued Examination is filed herewith.

Time Limit

The Applicant contests the time limit set forth in the Advisory Action. In response to the Final Office Action dated 27 July 2007, the Applicant filed a reply WITHIN 2 MONTHS on 17 September 2007.

With reference to MPEP 706.07(f):

If the examiner, however, does not mail an advisory action until after the end of the 3-month period, the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the examiner mails the advisory action and any extension of time fee would be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action.

In the Applicant's submission, the Examiner should have checked box (b) in the Advisory Action, and not box (a).

The Applicant will assume that the statutory period expired on the mailing date of the Advisory Action, and not 3 months from the mailing date of the Final Office Action.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC 103

The Applicant maintains that the claims previously on file were neither taught nor suggested by the combined teachings of Perazza and Sekendur. Nevertheless, in deference to the Examiner's rejection, the Applicant has amended claims 1 and 29 to specify the step of "computing a position of the nib from an observed perspective distortion on the imaged tag and a known geometry of pen optics". Basis for this amendment can be found at page 35, lines 12-15.

In the Applicant's submission, both Sekendur and Perazza plainly fail to teach that the position of the nib is computed using a perspective distortion observed on an imaged tag and a known geometry of pen optics.

As explained on page 35, line 12 *et seq* of the present description, the use of perspective distortion on an imaged tag enables an accurate determination of nib position. In tracking pen clicks, or movement of a pen on a page, it is important for the system to know precisely *where* the nib is positioned. Any approximations would lead to inherent inaccuracies in the system, which are highly undesirable.

With any optical pen position-determining system, there is a problem of how to determine nib position with high accuracy. Prior art optical positioning systems typically make an approximation by assuming that an imaged portion of the page corresponds with the actual nib position, and constraining the pen design so that the nib is placed as near as possible to the field of view of the image sensor.

As shown in, for example, Figure 7 of Sekendur, an optical sensor 13 is placed adjacent to the nib 9. Sekendur then makes assumption that the area of the page sensed by the sensor 13 corresponds with the nib position. However, as will be readily appreciated from Figure 7,

this assumption is merely an approximation, because the nib can never coincide with the area sensed by the image sensor – it would interfere with the optical system.

The present invention, by contrast, overcomes the deficiencies of Sekendur by computing the position of the nib using a perspective distortion observed on the imaged tag. Hence, no approximations or assumptions are made in the present invention – the precise position of the nib is accurately determined, unlike the prior art systems.

It is submitted that the neither Perazza nor Sekendur teaches this claimed limitation. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection of obviousness should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's objections have been successfully traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of the application is courteously solicited.

Very respectfully,

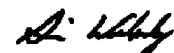
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